

Democrats Ready to Take Action on Expiring Items, Urge House GOP to Not Walk Away From Middle Class Families, Seniors

With less than a month left to take action on expiring items, Democrats are focused on extending middle class tax cuts and unemployment assistance, and fixing the Medicare physician pay rate. The American people cannot afford for Republicans to walk away from these expiring provisions like they did last December.

But with little progress made, Republicans seem willing to take it down to the wire once again. Since the House moved to go to conference on December 23rd, Republicans have not focused on taking action to extend these expiring provisions. Here's a look at what they've done instead:

4: Number of full days we've been in session.

11: Number of full days in session left before the current extension of middle class tax cuts runs out.

1: Number of times conferees have met.

0: Number of bills that address the expiring provisions or job creation.

0: Number of bills Republicans have brought to the Floor that address extensions of middle class tax cuts, unemployment assistance, or fixing the SGR. This week, Republicans are considering partisan bills that won't address these provisions, and have nothing to do with job creation:

- H.R. 3835 – To extend the pay limitation for Members of Congress and Federal Employees
- H.Res. 496 – Adjusting the amount provided for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Twelfth Congress
- H.R. 3567 – Welfare Integrity Now for Children and Families Act of 2011
- H.R. 1173 – The Fiscal Responsibility and Retirement Security Act of 2011
- H.R. 3582 – Pro-Growth Budgeting Act of 2011
- H.R. 3578 – Baseline Reform Act of 2011

160 million: Number of Americans at risk of seeing their taxes go up if we do not reach an agreement.

2.3 million: Number of unemployed Americans at risk of losing assistance.

48 million: Number of seniors on Medicare at risk of losing access to their doctors.

It's time for Republicans to stop wasting time and start working with Democrats to reach an agreement on a full-year extension so that we can give families and businesses the certainty they need.